



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **NOGALES MAN SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN PRISON FOR METH AND ASSAULT CHARGES**

TUCSON, Ariz. – Carlos Rivera-Estrada, 35, of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, was sentenced here to 20 years in prison by U.S. District Judge David C. Bury. Rivera-Estrada pleaded guilty on March 3, 2005, to the indictment charging him with possession with the intent to distribute approximately 15 pounds of 99% pure methamphetamine, two counts of assault on a federal officer, and one count of attempted assault on a federal officer.

The indictment was the result of an attempt by Rivera-Estrada to sell 15 pounds of methamphetamine to an undercover agent in September 2003. The agent had negotiated the sale of the methamphetamine over several days with Rivera-Estrada and they agreed to meet to exchange the methamphetamine for approximately \$140,000. On the day of the transaction, after the undercover agent saw the methamphetamine, he gave an arrest signal and other Drug Enforcement Administration agents attempted to arrest Rivera-Estrada. Rivera-Estrada fled in his vehicle striking an unmarked vehicle containing two DEA agents, who were attempting to block the parking lot exit with their vehicle. Other agents followed Rivera-Estrada's vehicle as it spun into traffic and stalled, narrowly missing another DEA agent's vehicle who was attempting to block the street.

Rivera-Estrada received a 20-year sentence for possession with the intent to distribute methamphetamine. He also received a 20-year sentence for each count of assault on a federal officer. The sentences are to be served concurrently. Judge Bury also imposed a five year period of supervised release to be served following the conclusion of the defendant's prison sentence.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Tucson Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration. The prosecution was handled by Cynthia R. Wood, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-2000-TUC  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-013(Rivera-Estrada)

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